

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF8

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 EB-11 SIL-01 LAB-06 RSR-01 /142 W

----- 087701

R 021515 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3451

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NY

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT SF ZA MA LT

SUBJ: PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE

1. ANNUAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS VOTE IN PARLIAMENT, DURING WHICH GOVERNMENT GIVES ACCOUNTING OF THE NATION'S FOREIGN RELATIONS AND SOMETIMES ANNOUNCES DEPARTURES IN FOREIGN POLICY, GOT OFF TO AN UNCERTAIN START APRIL 30. FOREIGN MINISTER HILGARD MULLER LED OFF WITH AN UNHERALDED LATE EVENING SPEECH BEFORE EMPTY DIPLOMATIC BOXES IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, IN WHAT SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE WAS ATTEMPT TO AVOID HAVING TO COMMENT ON UN SYG WALDHEIM'S REPORT ON NAMIBIA -- THEN DUE TO BE RELEASED IN NEW YORK IN A FEW HOURS. NEXT DAY, DEBATE WAS INDEFINITELY POSTPONED BECAUSE MULLER HOSPITALIZED WITH KIDNEYSTONE. WHEN

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DEBATE RESUMES, ATTENTION WILL CENTER ON WALDHEIM'S REPORT.
IN MEANTIME, SOME OF POINTS MADE BY MULLER ON OTHER FOREIGN
POLICY MATTERS ARE WORTH NOTING.

2. MULLER SAID 1972 HAD BEEN A MIXED YEAR FOR SOUTH AFRICAN
FOREIGN RELATIONS. HE REGRETTED THAT SOUTH AFRICA'S INCREASINGLY
CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC HAD BEEN TERMINATED
BY CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT THERE. THIS WAS SAG'S FIRST PUBLIC
ADMISSION THAT MALAGASY/ SOUTH AFRICAN DIALOGUE WAS, IN FACT,
AT AN END, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING. MULLER SAID, HOWEVER,
THAT NEW REGIME IN MADAGASCAR HAD "REPAID" SOUTH AFRICAN MONEY
INVESTED THERE DURING PERIOD OF WARMER RELATIONS. HE ALSO
ANNOUNCED THAT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND LESOTHO TO
EXCHANGE CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES HAD HAD TO BE SHELVED FOR NOW
AS RESULT OF EVENTS INSIDE LESOTHO. HE HOPED GOL WOULD ONCE
AGAIN BE ABLE TO TURN ITS ATTENTION TO REPRESENTATION QUESTION
WHEN POLITICAL SITUATION PERMITTED.

3. MULLER NOTED STATEMENTS MADE BY ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,
INCLUDING A ZAMBIAN MINISTER AND ZAMBIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER
IN LONDON, THAT GOZ WAS NOT AIDING ANTI- SOUTH AFRICAN GUERRILLAS.
HE SAID THESE WERE "NICE WORDS" BUT REITERATED THAT AS LONG AS
GUERRILLA ATTACKS CONTINUED THERE WOULD BE DANGER THAT TENSION
BETWEEN ZAMBIA AND "SOUTH", I. E. SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA,
WOULD INCREASE. SUCH A SITUATION, HE SAID, COULD ONLY LEAD
TO A "CONFRONTATION."

4. DESPITE SET- BACKS TO SAG'S OUTWARD POLICY, MULLER SAID
THAT A NUMBER OF (UNNAMED) AFRICAN STATES CONTINUED
TO CARRY ON DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

5. MULLER ALSO DISCUSSED OVERSEAS PRESSURE ON FOREIGN INVESTORS
TO IMPROVE THE LOT OF THEIR BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS. HE
SAID HE HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION
INVESTIGATING LABOR PRACTICES OF BRITISH FIRMS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
BUT IT WAS ANOTHER THING ENTIRELY IF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
TRIED TO COME TO SOUTH AFRICA TO PURSUE THEIR INVESTIGATIONS. HE
ALSO SAW NOTHING WRONG WITH "AMERICAN GOVERNMENT" INITIATIVES
ALONG THESE LINES AS LONG AS THESE DID NOT INVOLVE "INTERFERENCE
IN OUR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS." SPEAKING FOR THE SAG, MULLER SAID IT
WOULD BE WRONG TO THINK THAT IMPROVEMENT OF BLACK WORKING
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CONDITIONS HAD BEEN ENTIRELY THE WORK OF FOREIGN FIRMS. SOUTH
AFRICANS HAD TAKEN THE INITIATIVE IN THIS FIELD, HE AVERRED.

6. MULLER COMPLAINED THAT SOUTH AFRICA'S ENEMIES REFUSED TO
GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT WAS DUE AND DID NOT REALIZE OR REFUSED
TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE WAS CONTINUAL CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA.
MULLER SAID CHANGE WAS THE BASIS OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT BUT,

AT THE SAME TIME, HE MADE CLEAR THAT CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA
HAD TO BE ORDERLY AND TO FOLLOW BROAD PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN
BY THE GOVERNMENT.
HURD

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LONDON
LUSAKA
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